

THE Spacemaker

NEWSLETTER

VOLUME 1, NUMBER 4

McCLELLAN AIR FORCE BASE, CALIF.

FEB. 3, 2000

TAKE NOTE

Blood drive today

Today's blood drive is scheduled for 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the community center.

Eat and drink plenty of fluids before you donate. Bring photo ID. For more information, call Capt. Mark Weber at 643-5788.

Power outage Sunday

The following buildings will lose power from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday: Bldgs. 680, 687, 698, 707, 708, 724, 751, 752, 753, 754, 755, 762, 763, 764, 765, 766, 767, 768 and EM Pump. For questions, contact Boeing's 24-hour service desk at 643-6607.

Awards banquet

The final annual awards banquet is set for Feb. 17 at the McClellan Community Center at 6 p.m. For tickets call your order room. Cost is \$17 a ticket.

SNEAK PEEK

ACTION LINES.....	2
NEWS.....	3
AIR FORCE NEWS.....	4
NEWS BRIEFS.....	5
BASE NEWS.....	6
MOVIES AND ACTIVITIES.....	7
SWAP MEET.....	8

"Completing the mission of McClellan Air Force Base with professionalism and honor"



U.S. Air Force photo by Robin Jackson

Chief Finch talks with ALS

Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force Jim Finch, paid a quick visit to McClellan's Airman Leadership School Friday to discuss current issues affecting the enlisted force.

CMSAF discusses enlisted issues

By Capt. Tania L. Daniels
349th Air Mobility Wing Public Affairs

Chief Master Sergeant of the Air Force Jim Finch, America's 13th CMSAF, outlined the new Expeditionary Aerospace Force, the changing Air Force image and the important role the Air Force Reserve plays in the total force, in his first visit to Travis Friday since taking on his new position.

"We are better off today, as we start the year 2000, than a couple of years ago," observed Finch. He then went on to explain the new EAF concept and what it will mean to the service.

"Throughout the 1990s, we've been an expeditionary force but we didn't know how to organize ourselves to fit that concept," said Finch. "Now we're learning how to best make this concept work."

The EAF will be a whole new way of doing business for the Air Force, Finch pointed out. "It will be a culture shift for all of us. And so the question must be asked, 'How

do we change the culture of the Air Force?'"

"We're making strides to change the culture, one being the changes made to Basic Military Training," said Finch. "I'm talking about the addition of Warrior Week. For new recruits, the fifth week of basic training is now completed in a deployed environment." This will better equip them for what they will be experiencing when they enter the Air Force.

Regarding the issues that Finch sees as most important to the Air Force, the Chief pointed to four primary ones: increased work load, shortage of skilled 5-levels, recruiting and retention.

"There's an overabundance of 3-levels and a shortage of 5-levels who are the ones with the skills necessary to do the actual work," Finch pointed out to his audience. "We continue to have more work but not enough people. So how do we fix this?"

"It centers around manning," answered

See Finch page 2

Action Line

643-3344

Action Line
77 ABW/CC
5241 Arnold Ave.
McClellan AFB, CA
95652-1086

77abw.actionline@mccllellan.af.mil



Base Phone Numbers

AAFES.....	920-0537
Civilian Pay.....	643-6727
Civil Engineering.....	643-5624
Civilian Personnel.....	643-5838
Commissary.....	643-4954
Base Police.....	643-6161
Family Support.....	643-1106
Focus Center #1.....	643-5661
Fraud, Waste & Abuse.....	643-6000
Housing.....	643-6221
Legal.....	643-3150
Lodging.....	643-6223
Medical Appointments.....	643-8400
After Hours.....	643-7212
TRICARE Service Center.(800) 242-6788	
Military Equal Opportunity.....	643-3322
Military Pay.....	643-6965
Military Personnel.....	643-1094
Public Affairs.....	643-6127
Retiree Activities.....	643-2207
Security Forces.....	643-6160
Services.....	643-6660

Career concerns

Q The commissary is excluded from the base reduction in force because it will remain open after base closure. We absorbed several people from the base RIF, but since no one from the commissary will receive a base RIF notice, I cannot volunteer for Voluntary Separation Incentive Program/Voluntary Early Retirement Authority. Is there any way I can volunteer to take someone else's VSIP/VERA and allow that person to assume my position at the base commissary?

A In May 1994, the Department of Defense implemented the Expanded VSIP, also referred to as VSIP-Phase II. Under the expanded program, employees at non-downsizing activities, who might otherwise never have an opportunity to apply for a buy-out, are given the opportunity to voluntarily separate or retire, with a separation incentive. Thereby creating vacancies for other DOD

employees facing separation by RIF.

Employees at McClellan in receipt of a specific RIF notice, registered in the Priority Placement Program are automatically registered in the Expanded VSIP for all geographic locations in which they were registered.

As a successful match was located, the Expanded VSIP volunteer at the non-downsizing activity was offered the VSIP buy-out and the employee facing separation was placed in the position vacated by the volunteer. This process will be followed again for the fiscal year 2000 RIF.

If employees at non-downsizing agencies are interested in volunteering for Expanded VSIP, they should contact their servicing Civilian Personnel Office to obtain information regarding how work force surveys for VSIP interest will be handled.

General questions regarding the expanded VSIP program may also be directed to the McClellan PPP office at 643-2065.

Finch from front page

Finch. "We have to build from the future, thus our continued emphasis on recruiting more people and retaining them. These are two of our biggest concerns."

"The Air Force is not just about money. You have to balance everything when deciding whether to stay in," he observed. "When I retire I will ask myself, 'was I a better person for being in the Air Force?' I've done things in the Air Force I would never have been able to do as a civilian. In the end, it's not the money but the experiences that make you who you are."

Finch also addressed the recently released Chief of Staff survey results listing supervision as a primary concern.

"We need to find out if we are giving su-

supervisors enough time and the tools to get them trained to be able to do the leadership jobs we're asking them to do?" said Finch. "A lot of times, when the workload piles up, some of the leadership development gets put to the side.

But we don't want to give up the things that make noncommissioned officers' leaders. We must give them the tools they need for supervision and leadership."

Finch rounded out his visit by encouraging his audience to continue doing the wonderful job that they do every day. "Today, it doesn't matter whether you're active duty, Reserve or Guard. What matters is having great people, all pushing in the same direction, trying to get great things done for our country. That's what counts."

SPACEMAKER

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Air Force Vision

"Air Force people building the world's most respected air and space force ... global power and reach for America"

Air Force Materiel Command Vision

"Quality Systems for America's Air Force"

Sacramento Air Logistics Center Vision

"Completing the mission of McClellan AFB with professionalism and honor"

Base Closure Includes Properly Disposing of Equipment

From Your Inspector General

Col. Michael F. Turner

In the haste to turn over U.S. military bases to Panama this past year, millions of dollars worth of government property may have been improperly disposed of according to a Jan. 4 article in the Dallas Morning News. Large items, such as a road grader, passenger vans, forklifts, step vans, and other service vehicles ended up being offered for sale in a Panama City car lot.

Each of those items was supposed to have been donated by the U.S. Southern Command to international nonprofit organizations for use in regional humanitarian relief efforts. Instead, valuable equipment and other items may have wound up in the hands of individuals across Central America and the Caribbean – possibly including Cuba.

In the scramble to meet a mid-December deadline to be out of Panama, military officials said equipment and supplies worth up to \$200 million were given away, abandoned or sold for a fraction of their value. Numerous brand-new items were handed over for free to small regional charity organizations. Inadequate restrictions may have been placed on how the charities could dispense with them; consequently, many apparently found their way onto the commercial market.

A team of U.S. military and civilian criminal investigators has launched an investigation to find out how the items were disbursed and who might have profited from their sale. A source close to the inquiry said the investigation could last two to three years. Meanwhile, a federal grand jury convened in Atlanta in December to decide

whether indictments should be issued against several military and civilian suspects in the investigation.

Tens of thousands of donated or abandoned items are under investigation, including expensive printing equipment, classified radar systems, military night-vision equipment, tractor-trailers and naval landing craft.

In February 1999, when it became apparent the military might not be able to clear out its five remaining bases by the end of the year, the U.S. Southern Command was authorized to streamline procedures for dismantling the bases. The new procedures allowed the military to more easily dispose or transfer items valued at less than \$1,000. Items valued at more than \$1,000 could be given away with oral authorization from a supervisor known as a "property book officer." Because of the huge backlog, in many cases personnel in charge of valuing items and clearing them out quickly intentionally undervalued the equipment. As a result, a \$230,000 copy machine, less than 5-years-old, was valued at \$999. Similar incidents occurred just so everything could be sped up and washed through the system.

A few days before the military vacated Howard AFB, an Air Force colonel was conducting a routine inspection when he found a door ajar to a group of offices inside a facility. The base was to have been cleared out and sealed, but inside the facility, the colonel found highly classified radar equipment, consoles, computers and manuals used to track narcotics flights out of Colombia. The abandoned items were quickly crated and shipped out before the base was handed over.

So what does this have to do with McClellan? Our situation is different, but we still must be vigilant to see the closure process works the way it should. The types of problems that occurred in Panama can easily be avoided.

Proper advanced planning is a must, especially if you are an equipment/property custodian or the supervisor of such a person. As such, you are responsible and accountable to ensure required turn-in or disposal procedures are followed.

Supervisors should be knowledgeable of personnel departing, when they will be leaving, and what equipment or property they are responsible for disbursing. Then it is essential to retrieve the items from them or be able to properly secure the items for disposal at a later time.

Departing personnel should be required to clear through the organizational equipment custodian as a part of outprocessing. All equipment and/or property custodians should develop a procedure or checklist that fully identifies required turn-in/disposal actions. The procedures should be coordinated with the appropriate office of primary responsibility (the controlling organization) and the base closure office.

The McClellan AFB closure process has been going extremely well. Each of us can do our part to see that all equipment is properly accounted for and disposed of in accordance with regulations. Avoiding fraud, waste and abuse should be the goal of every individual and organization on the base throughout this process. I am confident we will hold our heads high when this is all over and say, "We did it right."

2000 NAACP Convention slated, nominations underway

The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People will host its 91st annual national convention July 7 to 13 at the Baltimore convention center, Baltimore, Md.

It is customary for the NAACP to recognize military service members with presentations of the NAACP Roy Wilkins Renown Service Award during the annual armed services and veterans affairs award dinner. This year the United States Coast

Guard will be honored at the 25th annual armed services and veteran affairs awards dinner, July 12. The award nominations must meet the NAACP criteria and only cover the significant accomplishments and contributions made during the previous two calendar years (1998/99).

For more information about the convention, or nomination packages, call Master Sgt. James Bork, Jr., at 643-3322.

CMSAF addresses BAH reform concerns

By Chief Master Sergeant of the
Air Force Jim Finch

WASHINGTON — From time to time, issues come up that seem to ripple through the force creating some anxiety.

When pay table reform was announced several months ago, many people became emotionally charged because they misunderstood the intent of the overall reform or relied on anecdotal explanations floating around that often twisted information out of context.

However, the issue died down considerably once we were able to get the facts out and explain the direction we were headed.

Last month, the Department of Defense announced changes to the basic allowance for housing rates, and some have taken exception to the new rates. Now, I realize we could have avoided a few concerns had we done a better job of sending out more information about the changes before they took effect.

I assure you we will continue to work on the process of getting you "up front" information on changes impacting you. For now, I want to make sure you are armed with some very important facts concerning the changes to BAH.

First, the changes in the BAH table are designed to provide a housing allowance that helps even the "out-of-pocket" expenses you and your peers pay regardless of where you are assigned.

As you may recall, the former basic allowance for quarters program favored those assigned to low-cost areas around the country at the expense of those located in high-cost areas. This meant adequate housing was extremely difficult to find for airmen at many locations.

Also, for years I received complaints from many of you that the variable housing allowance system was broken. You didn't know what your rate would be from year to year and believed Variable Housing Allowance favored more senior people who had additional discretionary income. BAH addresses both of these concerns.

Second, if you review the complete BAH table, you will find the rates dropped for some locations and increased for others. These new BAH rates were determined by a private firm and then independently confirmed using a number of sources.

It's important to realize the rates are based only on rental costs for a standard of housing listed for each pay grade. As a side note, we are also reviewing the housing standards BAH uses.

Third, those of you in areas where BAH declined are now rate protected...unlike in the former Basic Allowance for Quarters/VHA program.

This means you will continue to receive the higher BAH rate until you move or change your status. For example, a change in dependent status, or demotion would change your BAH rate, while a promotion

will not cause your BAH to drop. Overall, rate protection will mitigate any loss in housing income for the vast majority of people. Lastly, senior leaders are working for more improvements to housing compensation. Recently, Secretary of Defense William Cohen announced plans to reduce the out-of-pocket housing expense we collectively pay from an average of 18.8 percent this year to 15 percent next year. The secretary's goal is to eliminate [by the year 2005] the out-of-pocket for median rental costs throughout the United States.

The bottom line is this: Look at BAH in terms of your entire career and all the locations you may be assigned, as opposed to passing judgment on BAH based on a single line-item change to the table.

Talk with your first sergeant, command chief master sergeant, or commander to find out the facts and standards used to determine BAH.

Also, your housing experts can help you understand the true rental costs for your area.

If you still have questions or concerns, please raise them through proper channels so we can get them resolved.

I hope that when you have all of the facts, you'll agree BAH was the right direction to take as we continue to find ways to improve housing for our military men and women.

You can learn more about the BAH program at the BAH Web site, www.dtic.mil/perdiem/bah.html (AFPN)

New selective reenlistment bonus list announced

RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas — The Air Force has completed its latest review of the Selective Re-enlistment Bonus program, again increasing the pool of eligibles by 11 skills.

SRBs are a key monetary incentive to encourage sufficient re-enlistments in certain enlisted Air Force specialty codes to sustain career force objectives in those skills.

These reviews are conducted semiannually, normally in June and December, and involve a comprehensive review of all enlisted specialties. The criteria used for determining which enlisted skills receive an SRB includes current and projected manning levels,

recent re-enlistment trends, training factors, career field force structure changes and inputs from individual career field managers.

SRBs are authorized in one-half increments, or multiples, from one-half to 10, and in three re-enlistment zones for personnel with between 21 months and 14 years of service. The entire list is available on the AFPC Web page at <http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/enlskills/SRBLIST.htm>

For more information, contact your local military personnel flight's re-enlistment office. (Courtesy of AFPC News Service)

"It may be that those who do most, dream most." -- Stephen Leacock

NEWS BRIEFS

ALS graduation Friday

The Airman Leadership School Class 00B will graduate Friday, 2:30 p.m. at the community center. Duty uniform is appropriate. For further information, call 643-5879.

Society of Military Widows meet

The Society of Military Widows, Sacramento Chapter #5, membership and business meeting will be held Saturday, 1 p.m. at the Chapel Annex. For more information, call Edna Brown at 422-0891.

Blood drive

A blood drive is set for Feb. 11, 7:30-11 a.m., Bldg. 686 break room. Eat and drink plenty of fluids before donating, and bring a photo ID. For more information or to make an appointment, contact Senior Airman Mike Fischer at 643-3744 or Senior Airman Benji Crum at 643-3754.

Cholesterol class at HAWC

McClellan Health and Wellness Center is offering a Cholesterol class Feb. 24 from noon to 1:30 p.m. at the HAWC, Rafferty Hall, Bldg. 1403. The class is open to all interested active duty, dependents, retirees and Department of Defense civilians. For more information and to register, call 643-4648.

New PMCP subscriber list capability

The Program Management Career Program is running a list server. Air Force Career Programs will send out messages covering a variety of issues relevant to anyone interested in program management as a career.

Subscribers to the PMCP list server will automatically receive an email message whenever new career program information is disseminated. The current plans are to use the list server to tell you about future career broadening opportunities, education and training opportunities, and new career program information on the home page under NewsNotes. The list server is available to all interested personnel who possess email capability and wish to keep aware of PMCP policies and activities. But you have to take the action to subscribe.

For additional information and subscription instructions please consult the PMCP homepage at www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/cp/pmcp/listserv.htm.

December's military justice actions

- An officer was processed Dec. 20, 1999, for conduct unbecoming an officer. The officer received a forfeiture of \$2,500 pay for two months and a reprimand.
- A noncommissioned officer was processed Dec. 20, 1999, for controlling a vehicle while drunk. The NCO received a forfeiture of \$500 pay for two months and a reprimand.

Prepare for winter driving

By Sharon Reeves

Safety Specialist

It's time to give thought to preparing for winter driving. Here are some of the conditions that make winter driving more hazardous, and some things you can do to prepare your car for the colder weather.



Darkness - Under ideal conditions, after-dark driving has hazards not present in the daylight hours. Drivers need to slow down, increase their following distance for vehicle control on slippery roads, obey traffic rules and heed road caution signs.

Fog - Fog is perhaps the worst possible driving condition,

in terms of visibility. The most important thing to do is drive slow, but not *too* slow. Driving too slow is probably a sign that visibility is so bad you should get off the road. For instance, if you feel unsafe driving faster than 10 mile per hour, perhaps your instincts are telling you to stop.

Rain - Rain reduces visibility and lengthens stopping distance. The vehicle is more difficult to control, because the road is more slippery. At speeds more than 40 miles per hour, water starts to build up beneath the wheels, and the tire contact with the pavement begins to decrease. At about 50 miles per hour the tire surfaces begin to leave the road.

Frost, freezing rain, sleet, and snow - These conditions call for efficient heating and defrosting equipment to help the driver maintain visibility. Driving on snow and ice requires experience and skill. Sudden braking can put the car into a skid.

Unexpected conditions - Winter driving can be full of surprises and drivers should be prepared. Icy bridges often have sections of dry pavement. Road surfaces can change from good to bad in short distances. Weather can change radically within short periods of time.

Vehicle condition - Particular attention should be given to the following: *tires*--make certain the tread is good and the tires are properly inflated; *windshield wipers*--the arms should have the proper tension and the blades should wipe clean; *brakes*--have them equalized to prevent swerving when they are applied; *lights*--all should be in perfect working order; *muffler*--carbon monoxide fumes may be produced by a defective muffler or tailpipe; *seat belts*--use them whenever the car is in motion; *heating system*--make certain the heater and defroster operate properly; *radiator*--make certain the radiator has no leaks and that it contains antifreeze that matches climate needs; and *extras*--a box of sand, a shovel, a flashlight, a snowbrush and scraper, a flare, a blanket, and a first-aid kit should be part of the winter driving supplies.

FOCUS CENTER

This section contains some of the job announcements available at the McClellan Air Force Base FOCUS Center. For additional information, contact FOCUS Center #1 at 643-5661. FOCUS #1 is open until 7 p.m. Thursdays.

Position: Supervisory Salary & Wage Specialist, GS-223-14
Annc#: DASC-00-822
Close: Feb. 28
Location: Travis AFB
Agency: Dept of Air Force
POC: (614) 692-0200
Remarks: *Copies of the vacancy announcement are available in the FOCUS Center. Review the announcement and contact the agency for KSA's and/or additional information.*

Position: Economist, GS-110-11/12
Annc#: BOR-MP-00-024
Close: Feb. 9
Location: Sacramento, CA
Agency: Bureau of Reclamation
POC: Inga Hall (916) 978-5471
Remarks: *Copies of the vacancy announcement are available in the FOCUS Center. Review the announcement and contact the agency for KSA's and/or additional information.*

Position: Medical Supply Technician, GS-622-05
Annc#: VA-1-00-16
Close: Feb. 23
Location: Sacramento, CA
Agency: Veterans Administration
POC: Adriana Gracias (310) 268-4150
Remarks: *Copies of the vacancy announcement are available in the FOCUS Center. Review the announcement and contact the agency for KSA's and/or additional information.*

Position: Construction Inspector, GS-809-07 (Term Not to Exceed 4 years)
Annc#: AF-00-125
Close: Feb. 22
Location: Beale AFB
Agency: Dept of Air Force
POC: (661) 277-3840
Remarks: *Copies of the vacancy announcement are available in the FOCUS Center. Review the announcement and contact*

the agency for KSA's and/or additional information.

Position: Contact Representative, GS-962-06/07
Annc#: CA-00-016
Close: Feb. 4
Location: Sacramento, CA
Agency: Bureau of Land Management
POC: (916) 978-4460
Remarks: *Copies of the vacancy announcement are available in the FOCUS Center. Review the announcement and contact the agency for KSA's and/or additional information.*

Position: Budget Technician, GS-561-06/07
Annc#: MP-00-22
Close: Feb. 11
Location: Sacramento, CA
Agency: Bureau of Reclamation
POC: Inga Hall (916) 978-5471
Remarks: *Copies of the vacancy announcement are available in the FOCUS Center. Review the announcement and contact the agency for KSA's and/or additional information.*

Position: Supervisory Personnel Management Specialist, GS-201-13
Annc#: BOR-MP-00-15
Close: Feb. 22
Location: Sacramento, CA
Agency: Bureau of Reclamation
POC: Inga Hall (916) 978-5471
Remarks: *Copies of the vacancy announcement are available in the FOCUS Center. Review the announcement and contact the agency for KSA's and/or additional information.*

Position: Regional Resources Manager, GS-301-14
Annc#: BOR-MP-00-13
Close: Feb. 18
Location: Sacramento, CA
Agency: Bureau of Reclamation
POC: Inga Hall (916) 978-5471
Remarks: *Copies of the vacancy announcement are available in the FOCUS Center. Review the announcement and contact the agency for KSA's and/or additional information.*

Non-Federal Jobs

Position: Grounds Worker II
Salary: \$11.23 - \$14.42 per hour

Close: Feb. 4
Location: Elk Grove, CA
Agency: Elk Grove School District
POC: (916) 686-7781
Remarks: *Contact the agency for additional information.*

Position: Administrative Clerk I
Salary: \$1,863 - \$2,378 per month
Close: Feb. 4
Location: Roseville, CA
Agency: City of Roseville
POC: (916) 774-5627
Remarks: *Copies of the vacancy announcement are available in the FOCUS Center. Review the announcement and contact the agency for additional information.*

Position: Assistant Storekeeper
Salary: \$1,614 - \$1,962 monthly
Close: Feb. 4
Location: Yolo County
Agency: Yolo County
POC: (530) 666-8159
Remarks: *Copies of the vacancy announcement are available in the FOCUS Center. Review the announcement and contact the agency for additional information.*

Jobs available at Hill Air Force Base

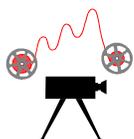
Hill Air Force Base Operating Location is opening a Green-border Announcement for various general schedule and wage grade positions that will be identified on the announcement.

This announcement will be opened Monday through Feb. 18.

Only career, career conditional and Veterans Re-appointment Authority employees, who are working and serviced by McClellan Air Force Base, are eligible to apply.

Selection of employees will require a signed relocation/mobility agreement. AFLC Form 4999 may be picked up in the focus center or at the reception desk in Bldg. 10.

Movies



Movies start at 7 p.m., unless otherwise noted, in Bldg. 1417. Movies are subject to change.

Sleepy Hollow - Friday

Starring: Johnny Depp, Christina Ricci

This classic story is brought to life by the gothic film maker, Tim Burton. Johnny Depp plays Ichabod Crane and to win the heart of Katrina Van Tassel (Ricci), he will have to brave the nearby woods, even though several decapitated bodies have been found. (*R - horror, romance*)

Anna and the King - Saturday

Starring: Jodie Foster, Show Yun-Fat

English school teacher Anna has traveled thousands of miles to a land that is largely unknown to the western world, Siam. She brings with her an "East vs. West" prejudice but over time discovers that the king is a man of vision, leading Siam to take its place among the modern world. (*PG-13 - some violence*)

Flawless - Sunday

Starring: Robert DeNiro, Philip Seymour Hoffman

Walt Koontz is a retired police officer, ultra-conservative and proud of it. Late one night, Walt suffers a stroke which leaves him partially paralyzed. Refusing to leave his apartment for therapy, Walt agrees to a home rehab program that includes singing lessons from a tough drag queen named Rusty. (*R - language, violence*)

Youth Center

■ **Today:** Open recreation, 2-6 p.m.; open gym, 2-3 p.m.; open snack bar, 2-6 p.m.; advanced gymnastics, 3:15-4:15 p.m.; Tae Bo aerobics, 6:15-7:15 p.m., ages 11 and up, free.

■ **Friday:** Open recreation, 2-6 p.m.; open snack bar 2-6 p.m.; open gym, 2-6 p.m.; Skate night, ages 5-8, 6:30-8:30 p.m., members \$2, non-members \$4.

■ **Saturday:** Open recreation and snack bar from noon-5 p.m. Basketball games begin at 10 a.m. Snow sledding trip, limit 10 members, ages 12-16, 10 a.m.-5 p.m., \$10.

■ **Sunday:** Closed

■ **Monday:** Open gym, recreation and snack bar, 2-6 p.m.

■ **Tuesday:** Open recreation, 2-6 p.m.; open gym, 4:15-6 p.m.; open snack bar, 2-6 p.m.; beginning gymnastics, 3:15-4:15 p.m.

■ **Wednesday:** Open recreation, 2-6 p.m.; open gym, 2-5:15 p.m.; open snack bar, 2-6 p.m.; beginning dance lessons, 5:30-6:30 p.m.

NCOA scholarship deadline approaches

The Noncommissioned Officers Association annually awards 35 scholarship grants to children and spouses of NCOA members.

The NCOA offers 18 academic and four vocational awards to children of members; nine academic and one vocational award to spouses of members at \$900 each. Three special grants, at \$1,000 each, are awarded each year - the Mary Barraco Scholarship presented to the student submitting the best essay on Americanism, the William T. Green

Scholarship presented to the student with the best high school academic record, and the NCOA/Pentagon Federal Credit Union Grant.

Most of the grants are renewable each year with approval from the scholarship committee. Each has specific requirements for submission. The deadline for submission is March 31. For additional information, call Chief Master Sgt. Jim Sullivan at 643-6808 or Master Sgt. Gary Chase at 643-6259.

Unit Patches wanted for historical display

Patches not only display symbols of their missions but are also a great source of military art. Many units collect and display patches from around the world.

Today the Air Force Research Laboratory, Hanscom Air Force Base, Mass., is looking for help in putting together their own display. Hanscom is looking for any command, unit, mission, career, or other military related patches. If your interested in donating or swapping patches, contact Tech. Sgt. Joseph Arsenault (arsenaultj@plh.af.mil) at DSN: 478-4824, Comm (781) 377-4824 or mail them to AFRL/V SOSR Attn: Tech. Sgt. Arsenault, 29 Randolph Rd., Hanscom Air Force Base, Mass. 01731-3010.

If possible, include a note explaining the location and facts about each patch. Your help will be greatly appreciated and will provide AFRL members a greater display of this type of military art.

Free clothing

The McClellan Thrift Shop, managed by the Air Force Sergeants Association Auxiliary, Chapter 1322A, is giving away free clothing for airmen E1-E4 today from 2-6 p.m. The thrift shop is located in Bldg. 1370 on the corner of Dudley Boulevard and Luce Avenue. For more information, call Gene Charles, 922-0883.

NCOA meeting

The Central Valley Chapter of the Non-commissioned Officers Association will conduct their monthly general membership meeting Wednesday, 3:30 p.m. at Flashbacks. All members are encouraged to attend and bring a guest.

Details for the election night volunteer effort will be finalized, and a Valentine's Day door prize will be given away. For additional information, call Chief Master Sgt. Jim Sullivan at 643-6808.

NCOA election night

The Central Valley and Spirit of Sacramento Auxiliary Chapters of the Non-commissioned Officers Association will be supporting Primary Election '00 by volunteering at the Voter's Registration Facility off Bradshaw Road March 7, 8 p.m. to midnight. Transportation will be provided.

Most volunteers will be tasked with unloading the ballot boxes as they arrive from the voting locations while others will be validating the ballots themselves for readability. To volunteer or for additional information, call Chief Master Sgt. Jim Sullivan at 643-6808.

Base announces quarterly awards

By **Alica Doyle**
Staff writer

Quarterly awards for the 77th Air Base Wing were held Jan. 26 at the McClellan Community Center. The Medical Group took the enlisted honors.

The enlisted sweep is the first in three years for the group, but came as no surprise to Master Sgt. Ca'Trina Barbee, first sergeant.

"These men and women work hard. It's good to see their dedication rewarded. They deserve it," said Barbee.

Airman of the Quarter

Senior Airman Steven Henshaw, is the medical group's sole administrator for the Air Force mandated Command Core System. His aggressive approach to learning the new CCS made the group able to retrieve and report information to command headquarters on short-notice.

He is a member of the group's winning flag football team, and served as sergeant-at-arms for the recent all-ranks dining out.

Noncommissioned Officer of the Quarter

Staff Sgt. Lisa Kelly, serves as noncommissioned officer in charge, dental support element. In addition to giving expert support in all aspects of element administration, Kelly has completed 105 credit hours toward

her bachelor's degree.

She recently had the opportunity to perform for Tops in Blue, and won first place at the Summer Bash "Battle of the Bands."

Senior Noncommissioned Officer of the Quarter

Senior Master Sgt. Rudy Lopez, is the superintendent of the medical support squadron. He was chosen as the Air Force's only enlisted member of the Defense Department's strategic planning team on Pharmacy services.

He is credited with helping ease the transition of 4,800 patients into the David Grant Satellite Clinic service.

Lopez also presented the medical group's health benefit initiative to the deputy executive director of the Air Force Sergeants' Association.

Company Grade Officer of the Quarter

Captain Jay Galbreath, is the 77th Air Base Wing executive officer to the commander.

Galbreath's tireless efforts on behalf of 77th ABW earned him well-deserved recognition as liaison to the commander. He is active in the local community and the youngest deacon in an 8,000-member church.

Galbreath also serves in the Company Grade Officer's Council and the Air Force Association.

Writers - \$2,500 up for grabs

WASHINGTON — June 30 is the entry deadline for Joint Force Quarterly magazine's essay contest on innovations that can help the U.S. armed forces remain on the cutting edge of warfare in the 21st century.

The contest seeks essays on exploiting technological advances in warfighting and on the development of new operational concepts and organizational structures. Essays may be based on historical analyses of military breakthroughs or contemporary trends in the conduct of war.

First prize is \$2,500 and second prize is \$1,500. In addition, a \$1,000 prize will be presented for the best essay submitted by an officer in the grade of O-4 or below, or equivalent grades, regardless of nationality. The contest is open to all military and civilian authors.

Mail entries to: Essay Contest, ATTN: NDU-NSS-JFQ 300 Fifth Avenue (Bldg. 62) Fort Lesley J. McNair, Washington, D.C. 20319-5066.

Joint Force Quarterly is published for the chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff by the Institute for National Strategic Studies, National Defense University, in Washington.

For more information about essay submission, and to view this story in its entirety, visit www.af.mil and click on the news icon. (AFPN)

SWAP MEET

For sale

Car -- 97 Mazda B2300 Ext Cab pick-up, 5-spd, bed liner, alarm and more. Excellent condition, warranty. Asking \$11,500. Days 643-8520, Evenings, (707) 455-8566.

Motorcycle -- 91 Suzuki GS500e, 9.5K miles (very low), Plus: two helmets and kryptonite lock; \$2,000 obo (must sell due to PCS). Call 633-8507 or 643-8507.

Jet ski -- 97 Wave Venture 760 with trailer, includes four vests, tube and ski rope, low hours, \$5,000 (must sell due to PCS). Call 633-8507 or 643-8507.

Truck -- 89 Chevy Scottsdale, V8, 5.7L engine, 3/4 ton - tow ready, 43K miles, camper

shell, bed liner, AT, AC, cruise control, AM/FM stereo cass, \$8,600. Call (916) 332-1666.

Miscellaneous

For sale or trade: **Truck** -- 86 Oldsmobile Cutlass Cierra Brougham, excellent condition, A/C, P/S, P/W, P/L \$2,500 OBO/trade. Quasar VHS-C Camcorder \$75, works great. Panasonic canister vacuum \$30. 684-5366 (h) or 921-6242 (w).

Editor's note: Swap ads are a free, space-available-only service for military members, civil service employees, retirees and associated family members possessing current ID cards. The ads must be for the personal use of the

card holder. Drop off ads at Bldg. 200, room 125. Swap ads will not be published without a signature. The deadline is noon, Wednesday for possible publication in the following Thursday's issue. Only one Swap ad per household per week, up to 50 words, may be submitted. However, the ad can apply to more than one category, such as items wanted/trade, vehicles, furniture and yard sales. Spacemaker reserves the right to edit. No ads for money-making businesses, including daycare, or the sale of firearms or firearm accessories will be accepted.

To run a swap ad again, it must be resubmitted. For more information, call the Spacemaker at 643-6100.